GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department – Departmental Proceedings initiated against Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, the then MPDO of Jami Mandal, Vizianagaram (now retired), under Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 – Allegations o f misappropriation of funds in purchasing the LED Street lights without following DPC instructions – Inquiry Officer report received - Imposing a Penalty of withholding of 10% pension permanently along with recovery of Rs.2,38,625/- from the pensionary benefits - Orders – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG-III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 673 **Dated: 20-08-2025**

Read the following:

1. From the Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram Dist., Rc No.654/2016/P9, dt.25.09.2017.
2. From the Commissioner, PR&RD, Office Charge Memo No.6415/CPR&RD/A1/2017, dt.03.10.2017.
3. Explanation of Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, MPDO, Tekkali, Srikakulam District (now retired), dt.Nil.
4. Progs.No.646560/CPR&RD/A1/2017, O/o. Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P., dt.18.12.2019.
5. From the Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram Dist., Rc No. 654/2016/P9, dt.18.06.2020 (Inquiry Report).
6. From the Commissioner, PR&RD, Office Memo. No.646560/CPR&RD/A1/2017, dt.29.09.2020.
7. Explanation of Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, MPDO, MPP, Srikakulam, dt.23.12.2021.
8. From the Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P., Lr.No.646560/CPR&RD/A2/2017, dt.19.09.2022.
9. Govt. Memo.No. 1817309/Vig.III-A1/2022, dt.23.06.2025. (Show Cause Notice)
10. Explanation of Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, Retd. MPDO, Tekkali, Srikakulam Dist., dt.01.08.2025.

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ORDER:-

Based on the report submitted by the Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram District in the reference 1st read above, the Commissioner, Panchayat Raj, A.P. has framed the following Articles of Charges against Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, the then MPDO, Jami Mandal, Vizianagaram District (now retired) in the reference 2nd read above on the allegations of misappropriation of funds in purchasing the LED Street lights without following DPC instructions:

(Contd.P-2)

CHARGE I:-

That Smt Ch.Lakshmi Bai, former Mandal Parishad Development Officer, Jami and present MPDO, M.P.P, Kotabommali of Srikakulam District has failed to monitor the MPLAD funds allotted by Smt T.Ratnabai, M.P., of Hon'ble Rajya Sabha, for providing of street lights in SC Localities of 5 villages in Jami Mandal and paid irregularly to VCR Hardware & Electricals, Vizianagaram towards purchase of LED Street Lights with high rates compared to market prices to a tune of Rs. 4,63,625/- and caused loss to the Government. She has not observed the guidelines issued by the Government while receipt of least quotation and finalization of rates as per SOR 2014-15 thereby she failed to maintain absolute integrity in violation of Rule 3 of A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 and thereby she is liable for disciplinary action as per A.P. Civil Services (CCA) Rules 1991, hence this charge.

2. After examining the Written Statement of Defence submitted by the Charged Officer i.e., Smt.Ch.Lakshmi Bai, the then MPDO, Jami Mandal, Vizianagaram District (now retired) in the reference 3rd read above, the Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P. had appointed the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram as Inquiry Officer and Accounts Officer, O/o Zilla Praja Parishad, Vizianagaram district as Presenting Officer to conduct inquiry into the charges in the reference 4th read above.

3. In the reference 5th read above, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram district and Inquiry Officer has furnished his Inquiry Report on the charges framed against Smt. Ch.Lakshmi Bai, the then MPDO, Jami Mandal of Vizianagaram Dsitrict (now retired) and stated that the Charge is partly proved and recovery may be ordered for Rs.2,38,625/- from concerned officers and suppliers.

4. In the reference 6th read above, the Inquiry Report was communicated to the individual through the Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Srikakulam. In the reference 7th read above, the individual has submitted her explanation on the Inquiry Report.

5. In the reference 8th read above, the Commissioner, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, A.P. has furnished the record of Inquiry along with the provisional decision i.e., to impose a major penalty of 'Stoppage of three increments with cumulative effect along with recovery of misappropriated amount of Rs.2,38,625/-, in the case initiated against Smt. Ch.Lakshmi Bai, the then MPDO, Jami Mandal of Vizianagaram District, now retired from service, to Government.

6. After examining the report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram, with reference to the explanation submitted by the Charged Officer and material available on record and as the individual retired from service on 31.5.2025, the Government have provisionally decided to impose

(Contd.P-3)

a penalty of withholding of 10% pension permanently besides recovery of an amount of Rs.2,38,625/- from the pensionary benefits of the Charged Officer i.e., Smt. Ch.Lakshmi Bai, Retd. MPDO, Jami Mandal of Vizianagaram District, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980 since the charge is held proved.

7. As envisaged in Rule 9 (2) (a) of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, in the reference 9th read above, a Show Cause Notice duly indicating the quantum of punishment was served on the Accused Officer. In the reference 10th read above, the Charged officer has submitted the explanation to the Show Cause Notice.

8. Government after examination of the explanation of the Charged Officer and Inquiry Officer's findings, have decided to impose a penalty of withholding of 10% pension permanently besides recovery of an amount of Rs.2,38,625 /- from the pensionary benefits of the Charged Officer Smt. Ch.Lakshmi Bai, Retd. MPDO, Jami Mandal of Vizianagaram District.

9. Having consideration of facts of the case, the Government hereby impose penalty of withholding of 10% pension permanently besides recovery of an amount of Rs.2,38,625/- from the pensionary benefits of the Charged Officer Smt. Ch.Lakshmi Bai, Retired MPDO, Jami Mandal of Vizianagaram District under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 on the proven allegation of misappropriation of funds in purchasing the LED Street lights without following DPC instructions.

10. The Commissioner, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, A.P., Tadepalli, Guntur District shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

SHASHI BHUSHAN KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Smt. Ch.Lakshmibai, Retd. MPDO, Jami Mandal, Vizianagaram District
through the Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P., Tadepalli, Guntur District.
The Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P., Tadepalli, Guntur District.
Copy to:
The Deputy Chief Executive Officer, ZPP, Vizianagaram District- for n/a.
The Accountant General (A&E), A.P., Vijayawada.
The Pay and Accounts Officer, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The Secretary to VC, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi.
The OSD to Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister (PR,RD,RWS&EFST).
The P.S to Prl. Secretary to Govt., P.R. & R.D. Dept.
E-file(C.No. 1817309)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER